

## Message Text

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72

ORIGIN AGR-20

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 EA-11 ADP-00 EB-11 HEW-08 STR-08

TAR-02 COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 PA-03

RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 NSA-02 SS-15 NSC-10 /160 R

66605

DRAFTED BY: APHIS:FO:FP:EEMONTGOMERY

APPROVED BY: EB/ORF/OF/FPD:MPBOERNER

APHIS:HMSTEINMETZ VHBERRY FJFULLERTON AGRIC:RBEVIS

FAS: RLOWEN DOBBINS ENGBRETSON

EB/ORF/FPD:SIMPSON

ARA/ECP:CREYNOLD (INFO) EUR/RPE: AALBRECHT (INFO)

EA:JBARGER (INFO)

----- 033753

R 232202Z JUL 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

AMCONSUL BELIZE

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

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AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA  
AMEMBASSY MEXICO  
AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO  
AMEMBASSY OSLO  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
AMEMBASSY PANAMA  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE  
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE  
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE  
AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO  
AMEMBASSY SOFIA  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
TRUST TERRITORY OF PACIFIC ISLANDS  
AMEMBASSY VIENNA  
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA  
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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LONDON FOR ENGLAND AND WALES, NO. IRELAND AND SCOTLAND

JOINT USDA STATE MESSAGE

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS/ EAGR, XX  
SUBJ: MEAT INSPECTION

1. PLEASE DELIVER FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM DR. FRED J. FULLERTON,  
DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR, FIELD OPERATIONS, MPI, APHIS, TO MOST  
SENIOR OFFICIAL IN CHARGE OF MEAT INSPECTION IN HOST COUNTRY.

2. MESSAGE-ON JULY 19, 1973, DR. G.H. WISE, ACTING ADMINI-  
STRATOR, ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE, ISSUED THE  
FOLLOWING BULLETIN (MPI 353) TO U.S. MEAT INSPECTORS AND PLANT  
OWNERS. QUOTE:

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"SPICE PREMIXES CONTAINING NITRITES AND/OR NITRATES

ATTACHED IS A COPY OF A JULY 19, 1973, FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICE  
PUBLISHED BY THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATOR (FDA) ANNOUNCING  
THAT AGENCY'S REGULATIONS CONCERNING THE USE OF NITRATES AND/OR  
NITRITES WHEN COMBINED WITH SPICES AS CURING PREMIXES. PLEASE  
READ THIS ATTACHMENT CAREFULLY AS IT PROVIDES VALUABLE BACKGROUND  
INFORMATION REGARDING THE ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN BY USDA INSPECTORS

THAT ARE SET FORTH IN THIS BULLETIN.

RECENTLY, USDA AND FDA OFFICIALS MET WITH THE MEAT AND POULTRY INDUSTRY, AS WELL AS THE SPICE TRADE INDUSTRY, TO DISCUSS FORMATION OF NITROSAMINES IN SPICE MIXTURES CONTAINING NITRATES AND/OR NITRITES. SOME NITROSAMINES ARE POTENTIALLY HAZARDOUS TO HEALTH. INDUSTRY WAS ADVISED THAT SPICES AND SUCH CURING AGENTS SHOULD NOT BE MIXED TOGETHER UNTIL JUST PRIOR TO USE.

BASED ON RECENT USDA STUDIES CONFIRMING THE PRESENCE OF NITROSAMINES IN UNBUFFERED PREMIXES CONTAINING NITRATES AND/OR NITRITES, FDA HAS CONCLUDED SUCH PREMIXES ARE NOT RECOGNIZED AS SAFE AND CONSTITUTE A POTENTIAL HEALTH HAZARD REQUIRING IMMEDIATE ACTION. BUFFERED PREMIXES MAY BE USED IN PREPARING PRODUCTS IN OFFICIAL ESTABLISHMENTS IF THE PREMIX IS IDENTIFIED AS BUFFERED WITH SODIUM CARBONATE ( $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$ ). UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE THE APPEARANCE OF SODIUM CARBONATE ( $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$ ) ON THE LABEL OF SPICE MIXES CONTAINING NITRATES AND/OR NITRITES MAY BE CONSIDERED AS SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE THAT THE PREMIX IS BUFFERED. OTHER SPICE MIXTURES NOT LABELED AS CONTAINING SODIUM CARBONATE ( $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$ ), AND WHICH CONTAIN NITRATES AND/OR NITRITES, MAY NOT BE USED IN CURING MIXTURES FOR MEAT AND POULTRY PRODUCTS UNLESS IT CAN BE DEMONSTRATED THAT WHEN 2 GRAMS OF THE PREMIX ARE ADDED TO 100 GRAMS OF WATER A PH OF NOT LESS THAN 7.5 IS OBTAINED AS MEASURED WITHIN 5 MINUTES AFTER MIXING. INSPECTORS ARE AUTHORIZED TO RECEIVE CERTIFICATIONS FROM OFFICIAL ESTABLISHMENTS IN THE FORM OF LABORATORY DOCUMENTATION THAT SUCH A REQUIREMENT HAS BEEN MET. EITHER INPLANT OR OTHER COMMERCIAL LABORATORIES MAY BE UTILIZED FOR THIS PURPOSE. THE ADDITION OF SODIUM CARBONATE ( $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$ ) OR OTHER BUFFERING AGENTS TO EXISTING STOCKS OF SPICE MIXTURES CONTAINING NITRATES AND/OR NITRITES IS NOT AN ACCEPTABLE PRACTICE, AND CANNOT BE CONSIDERED AS MEANS OF MEETING THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS BULLETIN.

UNBUFFERED SPICE MIXTURES CONTAINING NITRATES AND/OR NITRITES  
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WHICH DO NOT MEET THE PH REQUIREMENT AS OUTLINED IN THE PRECEDING PARAGRAPH, AND WHICH ARE PRESENTLY IN OFFICIAL ESTABLISHMENTS SHALL BE U.S. RETAINED BY APPROPRIATE INSPECTION PERSONNEL. INFORMATION RELATING TO RETAINED LOTS OF THIS TYPE OF PRODUCT SHOULD BE GATHERED BY REGIONAL DIRECTORS AND FORWARDED TO THE APPROPRIATE REGIONAL OFFICE OF FDA FOR NECESSARY ACTION. THIS BULLETIN DOES NOT APPLY TO MEAT AND POULTRY PRODUCTS PREPARED PRIOR TO RECEIPT OF THIS BULLETIN BY THE ESTABLISHMENT INSPECTOR IN CHARGE. THIS ACTION DOES NOT AFFECT THE USE OF SPICES AND CURING AGENTS WHEN PACKAGED AND ADDED TO PRODUCTS OR CURING SOLUTIONS SEPARATELY, OR WHEN SPICES AND CURING AGENTS ARE MIXED AT THE TIME THEY ARE APPLIED OR ADDED TO PRODUCTS OR CURING SOLUTIONS. G.H. WISE ACTING ADMINISTRATOR" UNQUOTE.

FOREIGN OFFICIALS CERTIFYING MEAT PRODUCTS FOR EXPORT TO THE

UNITED STATES ARE REQUESTED TO IMMEDIATELY WITHHOLD CERTIFICATION  
FROM PRODUCTS CONTAINING SPICE MIXTURES NOT COMPLYING THE WITH  
PROVISION OF THE ABOVE QUOTED INSTRUCTION. THE TEXT OF THE U.S.  
FOOD AND DRUG REGULATION WILL FOLLOW SHORTLY. END MESSAGE.

3. PLEASE CABLE APHIS/ USDA WHEN MESSAGE DELIVERED. ROGERS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOOD INSPECTION, CONSUMER PROTECTION, HEALTH, FOOD PRESERVATION, FOOD ADDITIVES, MEATS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 JUL 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973STATE144539  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** APHIS:FO:FP:EEMONTGOMERY  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** STATE JOINT  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730716/aaaaalcw.tel  
**Line Count:** 175  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ORIGIN AGR  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 4  
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**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** cunninfx  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 20 DEC 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <20-Dec-2001 by thomasv0>; APPROVED <04-Feb-2002 by cunninfx>  
**Review Markings:**

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EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MEAT INSPECTION  
**TAGS:** EAGR, SWEL, XX, US, FDA, (FULLERTON FRED J), (WISE G H)  
**To:** ASUNCION MULTIPLE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005